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2 May 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
 Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
 Deputy Director for Intelligence
 Deputy Director for Plans
 Assistant Director for National Estimates
 Assistant Director for Current Intelligence
 Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence

SUBJECT : Handbook of Economic Estimates for the Soviet Bloc
 (IP-268)

1. Attached is a preliminary edition of a Handbook of Economic Estimates for the Soviet Bloc. This edition should be viewed primarily as a dry run designed to solicit suggestions for improvements and to facilitate systematic examination and revisions of estimates of economic activities in the Soviet Bloc. All estimates should be taken as provisional and subject to continuing review and revision. It will be noted that these estimates were compiled from sources available as of 1 February 1952. Moreover, many of the sources were unfinished intelligence. In many cases, the estimates have already been superseded. For these reasons, estimates should be used with caution and should not be quoted as CIA estimates without further consultation with ORR and its component divisions. It is further requested that distribution of this preliminary edition be limited to the addressee and those specifically designated by the addressee to review or use it.

2. A small staff of this office will devote nearly full time to continuous revision and refinement of this work and will at frequent intervals issue revised, dated sheets. In rough terms, this Handbook may be thought of as an attempt to maintain a Commerce-Clearing-House-type service for those who need economic intelligence essentials available in ready-reference form.

3. We should appreciate receiving any comments and suggestions you may have concerning improvements in form, organization, and content of the Handbook.

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Assistant Director
 Research and Reports

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Each Addressee - 1

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